

2001 Environmental Quality Incentives Program



Customer Focus

Freda Campbell and Don Jones are doing their part protecting our soil and water resources in southern Noble County. They were able to use cost share assistance through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) to install Grade Stabilization Structures.

Grade Stabilization Structures are used to stop gullies that have formed over time. Once these structures are installed, they stabilize any gully progression and trap sediment, keeping it out of our creeks and lakes.

Jones and Campbell worked hand in hand with the Natural Resources Conservation Service that provided technical assistance for installing the Grade Stabilization Structures.

The EQIP program is a voluntary conservation program that provides technical, financial and educational assistance to farmers and ranchers. It serves as a tool to address serious natural resource conservation concerns by implementing conservation practices.

Pictured at the right is a gully before it was stopped with a Grade Stabilization Structure. The picture to the far right depicts the difference after the Grade Stabilization Structure was installed to stop the progression or erosion of the gully. In the picture is NRCS District Conservationist, Rusty Peterson, and landowner, Freda Campbell.

Oklahoma Summary

Overview

In Oklahoma, strong interest and participation in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) continued through FY 2001. Applications requesting Federal cost-share funds totaling over \$8.5 million dollars were submitted by 1,776 landowners. The Oklahoma FY 2001 allocation for financial assistance was \$3,497,000. This is a shortfall of about \$5 million to meet current client needs. NRCS staff and our partners developed and approved 570 EQIP conservation plans and contracts, which obligated nearly 99+ percent of allocated financial assistance funds. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) employees in Oklahoma devoted over 53,550 hours to EQIP administration in FY 2001. This is equivalent to \$1,183,000 in wages associated with the EQIP.

Accomplishments

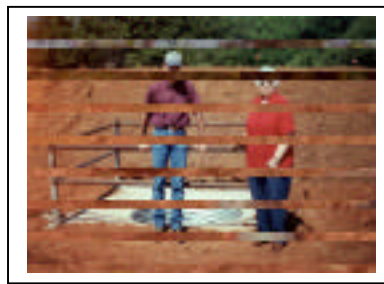
EQIP financial assistance has been distributed in Oklahoma through 32 Priority Areas, including 8 Tribal Priority Areas and 4 Statewide Natural Resource Concerns. \$2,900,400 in EQIP Federal cost-share dollars were obligated in Priority Areas and \$615,300 obligated to Statewide concerns. FY 2001 EQIP conservation plans and contracts covered nearly 216,400 acres throughout the State. About 18,700 clients were provided assistance associated with EQIP in Oklahoma as reported in PRMS. This includes first-time applicants, new contracts, education and follow-up implementation with EQIP participants. In addition to financial assistance, nearly all of the \$69,000 in EQIP education funds was awarded in grants to organizations and groups promoting resource conservation throughout the state. Since the inception of EQIP in Oklahoma, over 38,670 distinct conservation practices have been planned in EQIP contracts.

Outlook

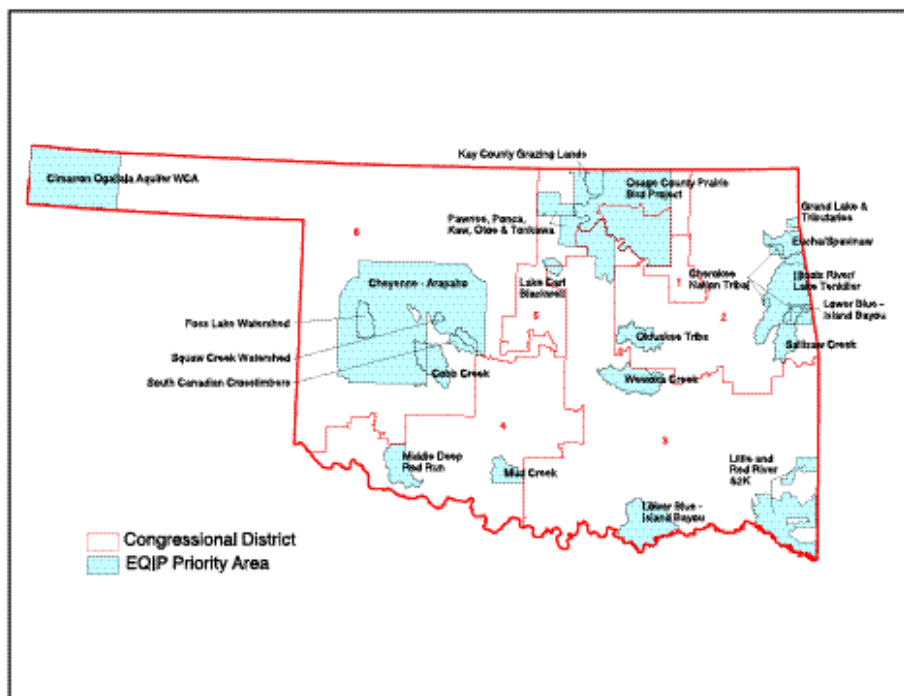
If participation was a measure of success of this program, Oklahoma would report tremendous success with EQIP. The total unmet needs requests from clients are \$5,000,000 in FY 2001, and the total unmet needs of unfunded Priority Areas (approved Priority Area applications that have not been funded) is about \$1,827,600. These figures indicate the need for continued program support to address significant resource concerns.

State Contacts

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Oklahoma EQIP Priority Areas Within Congressional Districts



Oklahoma EQIP Dollars and Contracts by Congressional Districts

Congressional Districts	Fiscal Year 2001		Cumulative Total (97-01)	
	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts
District 0	\$0	\$0	\$3,481,608	820
District 2	\$737,076	75	\$3,377,626	471
District 3	\$504,830	73	\$2,741,278	581
District 4	\$393,893	49	\$1,507,238	228
District 5	\$191,814	54	\$2,034,831	239
District 6	\$1,072,815	128	\$5,984,332	1,250
State Total	\$2,900,428	379	\$19,126,913	3,589

Note: EQIP contracts for each Congressional District are estimated from Conservation Priority Areas that may include more than one district.

Congressional District 0 = EQIP Contracts for Statewide Natural Resource Concerns which can be in any Congressional District in the state.

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